Utah Citizens' Advisory Commission (CAC) on Chemical Weapons Demilitarization Meeting
Utah Department of Environmental Quality
168 North 1950 West (Bldg. #2), Room 101
Salt Lake City, Utah 84116
January 18, 2007
6:30 p.m.

Members Present	Members Absent
Deborah Kim, Chair	Dan Bauer
John Bennett	Jane Bowman
Dennis Downs	Sidney Hullinger
Rosemary Holt	
Greg Jones	
David Ostler	
Beverly White	

I. Welcome/Minutes – Deborah Kim, Chair

Ms. Kim, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:39 p.m. and welcomed all present.

Ms. Kim introduced Bruce Clegg, the newly appointed Tooele County Commissioner. Commissioner Clegg will be replacing Dennis Rockwell on the CAC. Ms. Kim and CAC members congratulated Ms. Amy Leetham on her upcoming marriage. Also, Ms. Kim acknowledged the Army for all its efforts in producing the newsletter "Demil-Trib" and stated that the information provided in last month's newsletter was exceptional.

A motion for accepting the meeting minutes was put forward by Dennis Downs and seconded by John Bennett. It was unanimously carried that the November 30, 2006, meeting minutes be accepted.

II. Follow up items: None to report

III. Deseret Chemical Depot Update – Colonel Frederick Pellissier

Colonel Pellissier provided the following update: (A copy of the presentation is available with the meeting minutes.)

The Michael Parker/Dale Ormond change of responsibilities occurred on January 17, 2007. Mr. Ormond was named Chemical Material Agency Acting Director replacing Mr. Parker. Currently, Mr. Ormond is the deputy assistant secretary of the Army (Elimination of Chemical Weapons) and will continue in this capacity, as well as serve as the CMA Acting Director for approximately 60 days or until a new Director is appointed. Mr. Parker has also been the Director of the Assembled Chemical Weapons Alternatives (ACWA) Agency and will continue to serve in this position.

Colonel Pellissier recently addressed Depot workers at a town hall meeting to inform the workforce of the revised CAMDS closure, work schedule, and the planned path forward, as well as, the reduction-in-force that will take place next fall and the specific work load that employees will be assigned over the next 9-10 months.

The Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) will conduct the majority of the closure activities at CAMDS. TVA will assume facility responsibilities by February 2007. Colonel Pellissier stated that some reporting elements will still occur under his command. However, TVA has requested access control to ensure it is performing closure activities safely and in an environmentally compliant manner.

Sampling continues on the bulk containers in the Area 10 storage yard at TOCDF despite the bad weather conditions. Approximately fifteen ton containers are being sampled daily. Sampling results indicate that most of the ton containers can be processed, allowing TOCDF to stay ahead

of schedule when actual destruction is implemented. Approximately 1,500 ton containers have been sampled and the lot numbers are consistent with what the ton containers are reported to contain. However, challenges still exist with ton containers containing high solid heels.

Agent trail burns for the TOCDF Metal Parts Furnace and the Liquid Incinerator are being conducted. The cold weather temperatures have caused delays in the trial burn. The high heel ton containers with liquid were included in the trial burns and great results have been documented. Approximately, 440 ton containers have been processed at TOCDF.

Harold Oliver has retired and the Chemical Materials Agency has appointed Dan Hancock as the new Civilian Executive Assistant (CEA) at DCD. Mr. Hancock's previous position was the CEA at the Pueblo Chemical Agent Destruction Pilot Plant.

TOCDF will be featured in a Modern Marvels segment on the History Channel on February 21, 2007. The airtime is unknown. Colonel Pellissier encouraged the CAC to view the program.

IV. Program Status – John Donnelly

Mr. John Donnelly, TOCDF Government Facility Representative, provided an update on the Chemical Disposal Program. (A copy of the presentation is available with the meeting minutes.) Mr. Donnelly stated that all the chemical disposal sites that can operate are currently operating and TOCDF is on schedule to do the bulk of the disposal to meet the 45% destruction rate under the Chemical Weapons Treaty deadline schedule. Mr. Donnelly further stated that the costs for those facilities not constructed or not operational continue to rise. Mr. Donnelly also noted that one important issue deals with the DuPont treatment facility in New Jersey announcing its decision not to treat VX hydrolysate from the Newport Chemical Agent Disposal Facility in Indiana.

Aberdeen Chemical Agent Disposal Facility (ABCDF) – Maryland

Closure operations continue with all mustard bulk containers (1,817) drained and neutralized. Final demolition of the process neutralization building is almost complete. A completion ceremony is tentatively scheduled for February 2007. The Army expects to complete all closure field work at ABCDF by summer 2007. The chemical stockpile has been destroyed and the facility is in closure status.

Anniston Chemical Agent Disposal Facility (ANCDF) – Alabama

After a maintenance outage in December, the deactivation furnace system was brought online to resume VX M55 rocket operations. Trial burns for VX secondary waste have been completed. On January 11, 2007, an important milestone was reached with 547 tons of agent destroyed, totaling 25 percent of the original stockpile. VX operations continue.

Blue Grass Chemical Agent-Destruction Pilot Plant (BGCAPP) – KY

A 2006 review of the Kentucky and Colorado chemical demilitarization programs determined that their cost increase breached the 25% threshold established by the Nunn-McCurdy amendment, thereby requiring program recertification to Congress. On January 10, 2007, DoD officials provided the recertification to Congress, and directed that baseline cost and schedule estimates for the two programs be updated to more realistic values. The total costs for both programs are now estimated to be approximately $8 billion with Colorado operations complete in 2020 and Kentucky in 2023. Rosemary Holt asked what attributed to the cost increases. Mr. Donnelly stated the cost of the raw materials has increased significantly as well as inflation. Ms. Kim further stated that the delay in construction is due to the lack of funding. Mr. Donnelly concurred. BGCAPP infrastructure work continues on an access road and fencing. In 2007, plant design finalized with construction of main destruction facility beginning in 2008. The plant will destroy a stockpile of chemical weapons containing approximately 520 tons of nerve and mustard agents.

Newport Chemical Agent Disposal Facility (NECDF) - Indiana

On Jan. 5, 2007, after three years of consideration, the DuPont treatment facility in New Jersey announced its decision not to treat VX hydrolysate from NECDF. DuPont indicates the approval process would be too lengthy and arduous even with support from the Centers for Disease Control and the Environmental Protection Agency. The Army will now consider other options

and will generate a report on recommendations and the decision made. Ms. Kim asked when the report would be released. Mr. Donnelly stated the report would be released around March/April 2007. The VX hydrolysate (to date approximately 500,000 gallons) continues to be stored in inter-modal containers until later treatment. As of January 7, 2007, 626 bulk VX containers have been neutralized, totaling more than 37 percent of the entire stockpile. Beverly White asked about the concern with Dupont dumping agent into a river. Mr. Donnelly stated he was not aware of this concern, but would review and report back on his findings.

Pine Bluff Chemical Agent Disposal Facility (PBCDF) - Arkansas
On January 6, 2007, rocket and agent processing resumed after successful completion of the mini-outage for maintenance activities on the liquid incinerator and the deactivation furnace. As of January 7, 2007, 401 tons of GB agent from approximately 75,000 M55 rockets have been destroyed, totaling more than 10 percent of the original stockpile.

Pueblo Chemical Agent Destruction Pilot Plant (PCAPP) – Colorado
Stage-one construction continues with perimeter fencing. The Defense Access Road has been completed. Construction of the Access Control Point continues and is scheduled for completion by spring 2007. Stage-two construction of ancillary buildings is expected to begin in FY07. No decision has been made on whether to treat hydrolysate from the neutralization process on or off-site. A decision is expected by summer 2007. The plant will destroy a stockpile of mustard chemical weapons containing approximately 2,600 tons of agent.

Umatilla Chemical Agent Disposal Facility – (UMCDF) – Oregon
On January 3, 2007, workers destroyed the last of 14,246 8-inch diameter GB (sarin) nerve agent projectiles. A six week "changeover" is being conducted to prepare for the destruction of 155mm GB projectiles, the last GB munitions. The secondary waste trial burn is scheduled to occur during this changeover. As of January 7, 2007, 860 tons of GB agent has been destroyed, totaling approximately 23 percent of the original stockpile.

The Chemical Disposal Program Update included a graph dated January 7, 2007, entitled "Percentage of CMA Total Agent Stockpile Destroyed." The total stockpile is 31,498 tons, total destroyed is over 13,000 tons (42%) and total remaining is less than 18,300 tons (58%).

V. Plant Status – Joe Majestic

Mr. Joe Majestic, Deputy General Manager, Risk Management, provided a TOCDF update including Safety Performance and Environmental Performance. (A copy of the presentation is available with the meeting minutes.)

Mr. Majestic stated TOCDF continues to strive to do better in safety performance. The ongoing goal is to get the 12-month recordable injury rate (RIR) below 1. The goal was obtained once and TOCDF is currently striving to lower its current RIR. Unfortunately, three recordable injuries were reported in January. The three recently reported injuries are: an individual missed a step and fell and the fire extinguisher came down and broke his finger; in the Area 10 sampling facility, a torking tool malfunctioned and the individual wrenched his shoulder and back; and a chemist at the Chemical Agent Laboratory doing agent operations pinched a nerve in his elbow. None of the three injuries were weather related. Mr. Majestic stated that between August 3, 2006 and November 28, 2006, no documented RIRs were recorded, making it the longest timeframe without a RIR.

A graph entitled "Safety Performance" provided the following information: the 12-month rolling RIR is 1.18 which is down from 1.5 from the month of November 2006; four recordable injuries and five first aid injuries since the November 2006 CAC meeting; longest string in TOCDF history without a recordable was between August 3, 2006 – November 28, 2006 (116 days). TOCDF has 149,056 man hours for December 2006.

A graph entitled "Environmental Performance" provided the following information: Environmental Goal of 12-month rolling average < 1 human error RCRA non-compliances; zero human error Title V deviations; the 12-month rolling average for RCRA is .83 as of the end of December 2006; three RCRA human error non-compliance events since the last CAC; and no Title V human related deviation since the last CAC. The goal is to sustain the performance. Ms.

Kim asked how this performance compares to the other sites. Mr. Majestic stated because there are so many different permit conditions, it is hard to compare. However, DCD is among the elite in environmental performance. Even so, on the safety side, utilizing the other baseline demilitarization facilities as a measurement, DCD has to improve its performance. The Anniston Facility, the Umatilla Facility, and the Pine Bluff Facility all have better safety performance rates. However, a larger amount of work is performed at DCD.

Mr. Majestic provided an update on the "Ton Container Sampling Status and Stockpile Characterization." Area 10 is processing 15 ton containers daily. As of January 15, 2007, approximately 1,500 ton containers have been sampled (this is about one-quarter of the total stockpile). Approximately, 231 tons (low mercury ton containers) are available for processing through the metal parts furnace as of January 15, 2007. Mr. Majestic stated that, based on the initial characterizations of the stockpile, the low mercury/low solid heel ton containers was anticipated to be 70% - 80% of the stockpile. The high heels were expected to be minimal. However, what has been found is the total opposite. A graph entitled "Projected quantities at Area 10" was also reviewed.

Mr. Majestic provided an update on the status of processing ton containers. As of January 14, 2007, 432 baseline low-mercury ton containers have been processed through the metal parts furnace. Mr. Majestic stated that TOCDF has had to deal with many challenges, including, as discussed in a previous CAC meeting, the fact that some ton containers have boiled over in the furnace. TOCDF has had to adjust temperature in the zones in the metal parts furnace to address this problem. However, this issue is happening less frequently. A graph entitled "Mustard Ton Container Processing" discussing the number of ton containers processed through the metal parts furnace was reviewed.

The Trial Burn Status information was presented. Mr. Majestic stated that the metal parts furnace is one of TOCDF's main focuses. Last week the destruction and removal efficiency runs/tests were completed. These consisted of high liquid/low heel runs/tests. The runs/tests establish the highest charge weight that can be sent to the furnace. These runs/tests have metals spiking to establish metals removal efficiency (MRE). All of the trial burns are meant to establish compliance with RCRA perimeters as well as Title V perimeters.

Mr. Majestic reviewed the high solids condition. The high solid mustard tons were processed to demonstrate furnace ability to manage higher heels. Two of the three runs/tests have been completed. Exhaust gas sampling was performed to demonstrate that emissions meet standards. The furnace has performed well during these runs/tests. One more run/test is scheduled and then the metal parts furnace trial burn will be concluded and TOCDF will drop down to a 50% feed rate on the metal parts furnace.

Mr. Majestic provided the following information on the LIC (Liquid Incinerator): The LIC trial burn is scheduled to begin January 23, 2007. The LIC will be tested with both agent and spent decon solutions. The objective is to determine agent and metals removal efficiencies.

Mr. Majestic provided the following plant summary information: The metal parts furnace MPF HD ton container processing and trial burn activities are ongoing. Sampling activities are ongoing. LIC HD agent trial burn activities are ongoing. LIC1 Duct Repair activities are currently ongoing, as a duct failed after re-bricking. The LIC1 furnace was idle due to an investigation and repairs which will include the installation of expansion joints. The preparation for 155 projectile processing is beginning as these projectiles do not have the issue of the high mustard, so they are being moved up in the destruction schedule. As preparations occur for the 155 projectile processing, the CAC will be updated.

VI. DSHW Update – Marty Gray

Mr. Gray stated that currently four permit modifications are out for public comment for TOCDF and CAMDS. These permit modifications are available for review on the Division's web page.

Currently, the main focus for Division staff is the trial burn being conducted. Four to six inspectors are onsite monitoring all the activities, which include the operation of the furnace, operating conditions, waste feed into the furnace, stack sampling, process samples, recovery of

sampling trays, the preparations of samples being sent to the lab and agent. The Division's goal is to be confident in the data that will be submitted.

Mr. Gray stated there are two agents (lewisite and GA) identified that will not be dealt with by TOCDF. Division staff recently met with TOCDF regarding a proposal to deal with these two agents using a neutralization technology. Division staff conducted a preliminary review of the proposal and believes the treatment options presented in the proposal are sufficient, although concerns regarding the treatment levels need to be addressed. The Army's goal is to begin processing these two agents by the end of 2008 or the beginning of 2009. Ms. Kim asked where the process would take place. Mr. Gray stated he believes the process would take place in Area 10. CAC members asked that Mr. Gray keep them informed of the progress of the destruction of the lewisite and GA agents.

VII. New Business

Ms. Kim stated she has read about Dupont not taking the hydrolysate from Newport. Mr. Ormond had discussed this issue previously with Ms. Kim mentioning that possibly Clean Harbors will be identified as an option to take the hydrolysate. Ms. Kim stated that she feels this issue needs to be addressed and will put it on the agenda for the next meeting.

Dennis Downs stated that the Department has not received any official proposal to approve the hydrolysate coming into any facility in Utah. If a proposal is developed to bring the material to the Clean Harbors Aragonite Facility in Tooele, Utah, the Division would then review the proposal at that time. Mr. Downs reminded the CAC that these types of facilities handle these types of hazardous wastes daily and that currently they handle more dangerous material than the hydrolysate. Mr. Downs stated that the hydrolysate is probably a caustic material with no nerve agent in it. Mr. Downs further stated that depending on its permit conditions, Clean Harbors could receive this type of waste and disposal of it safely, with the Division's oversight. Mr. Downs stated there are both technical and political issues that exist that will need to be addressed. Technical and environmental issues are done at the Department/Division level and political issues will need to be dealt with at the Governor's level. CAC members asked if it is a liquid or a solid. Mr. Downs stated that it is a liquid material and if it was brought to the Clean Harbors facility, it would have to be transported by truck, as no rail system is available at this time to the facility. Beverly White asked how much hydrolysate needs to be destroyed. Mr. Downs stated 500,000 gallons.

The characteristics and the neutralization of hydrolysate were briefly discussed. Army personnel stated they will provide information on hydrolysate to the CAC at the next meeting.

Rosemary Holt asked if this is a different and unique product that has not been disposed of previously in Utah. Dennis Downs stated that the hydrolysate has not been analyzed, and nothing has been done at this time regarding the hydrolysate coming into Utah. Mr. Downs stated it would be advantageous to have the Army discuss all issues associated with hydrolysate at the next meeting. Ms. Kim indicated that, at this time, no decisions have been made, but it would advantageous for the CAC to get as much technical information available on this issue. Mr. Downs also stated this product is a sodium hydroxide product which can come from a number of different chemical processes and can be taken to any hazardous waste incinerator. Therefore, hydrolysate is not that different from what this facility is already processing. However, the neutralization agent issues need to be addressed. The Army stated that a total of four million gallons of hydrolysate exist.

VIII. Citizens Concerns: None

The next meeting was scheduled for March 15, 2007, at 6:30 p.m. in the Tooele Community Joint Information Center (JIC) located at 27 South Main Street, Tooele, Utah. (A map and directions to the JIC were distributed to the CAC.)

A "2007 DEQ Choices Calendar" and a "Tooele County Emergency Preparedness Calendar" were offered to each CAC member.

IX. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.